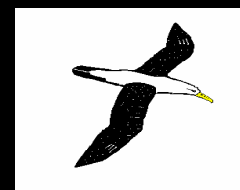


Tahuna News



Welcome

Many New Zealand eyes are on the Commonwealth Games each night over this fortnight. What a spectacle.

Athletes from all over the commonwealth are competing for their countries and for glory, along with all the pressures of living in the village and under the watchful eye of the media.

I admire how every athlete has been able to set goals, has put in hours and hours of work, and is making the most of their given talents. Here at Tahuna we have so many talented youngsters who are making the most of all opportunities on offer. I am always impressed by the talents and the keen sharing of these with their peers.

I thank staff for their continued efforts to give choices, challenge and variety to every school week.

We finish our chocolate sales this week. Thank you all for your support. We will be acknowledging our best sellers, and all students who have sold one complete box will go in the draw for prizes too. There are 3 beautiful mountain bikes and 4 MP3 players going to lucky students shortly.

Winter sports teams are being organised at present. Please make sure that notices and money for these are returned

promptly. This is needed before teams and players can be entered in the competitions.

Brent Ward
Principal.

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Most interviews have been carried out now and we thank all involved for their participation. There has been much shared to benefit both parties and we hope that you have found these worthwhile.

If you have missed your interview and want to see your child's teacher then you can still contact him / her or call the school office.

Bush Study

As I entered the bush, I saw beneath me dead, rotting, damp, dark leaves making up the cold leaf litter. There were overhanging branches covered in dripping, wet moss and lichen. There was a gaunt, gnarled looking tree, with a twisting, moisture dripping vine wrapped around it, reaching as if in desperation, to the sky. I could smell, just faintly, an earthy smell but it seemed as though the bush was tainted with it.

Situated just off the track, swamped with fungi, ferns, moss, and other mysterious plants, was a rotting log. Roots grew on the edge of the track, wild, twisted, bent and gnarled. Then they were gone.

They had disappeared into the ground, the wet, soaked, layered

ground. In the distance I could hear the steady, relentless, pounding of water onto water. It sounded deathly cold.

A few rays of sun glinted through the bush.

By Robert Soper



Artists busy at work

Helping the School

Chocolate sales are going well and we appreciate every block that has been sold. As to be expected some children are selling more than others. As we want to start winding this campaign up soon, it would be great to bring in the money for those chocolates already sold or if you have some you're struggling to sell, then it would be best to bring them in tomorrow.

Thanks also for returning the Telecom School Connection Forms which are keenly received at any time during the year. Points earned from these are used to update and add to our school ICT equipment which saves us many dollars in the long term - Thankyou.

School Council Mufti Day

The first fundraiser for the year is the School Council Mufti Day, where animal loving pupils have the choice of supporting the SPCA, by bringing a can of pet food if they wish to wear mufti. Others bring a gold coin, and already the School Council has been swamped with suggestions on what could be done with the money raised. We do hope everyone enjoyed wearing mufti on Friday.

Multicultural Update

Auditions for the Year 8 children are over and at this stage we have just over 100 members for 2006. Year 7 auditions are now underway and we are delighted to see so many pupils wanting to be a part of this cultural experience.

On Thursday, 9th of March, a representation performed at the Mayoral welcome to International students coming to study at the various educational institutions around Dunedin. This was extremely well received and many cameras could be seen, filming the item.

Race Relations Day Colouring Competition

Entries abounded for this colouring competition and judges were amazed at the quantity and quality of entries this year. This has been a lovely way to acknowledge our multicultural society, particularly on March the 27th.

Congratulations to our following winners:

Year 7: 1st – Gemma Baldock Rm 26
2nd – Courtney Stephens Rm 27
3rd – Ben Williams Rm 10
Year 8: 1st – Katherine Plant Rm 14
2nd – James Rolfe Rm 13
3rd – Rebecca Peace Rm 1

YIP System

The following children have been acknowledged at recent assemblies for good effort and / or good attitude in their school day.

Silver Cards

San Doran
Maddie Kelly
Ella Fielding

Jewellery

Now that the children are well settled into the 2006 year it is timely to remind a few children about the wearing of studs in ears. To clarify - children are allowed to wear just one small, plain silver or gold stud per ear. Thank you for your support on this matter.



Cricket Coaching

We have been fortunate to have two cricket coaches from Otago Cricket in the school for two weeks. Over this time each class has had around five sessions and were coached by these coaches in batting, fielding and bowling skills.

Some of the children are new comers to this sport and over this module teachers have commented on improvements seen.

Both staff and children are appreciative of the help given by Shaun and Kieran.

Thank you Otago Cricket.

Congratulations

Well done to Courtney Dunne, Jodie Hope, Michaela Joy and Amy Pollitt for being named in the Otago A- U13 Girls Basketball Team.

They eagerly look forward to travelling to Invercargill this Sunday to play Southland in a representative fixture.

We wish them all the best in their games.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor

I think carrots should grow on trees just like apples. You see you just want to go and take it off the tree and eat it but NO you have to pull it out of the ground and then wash it. I don't know who made that rule but I want to have a long conversation with the person who did. OOOHH I am so disappointed – Yes I am.

Kind Regards

Cameron Brocklebank

20 Hour Famine

Thanks also to those children who made sacrifices to raise money for those not as fortunate as them.

There were a variety of favourites given up for this cause and we look forward over the next week to see how the children went and then to send off the money they raised.

Creative writing from a shared picture

Archie Smith, boy wonder,
A tiny voice asked "Is he the one?"
The tiny voice knew this room well; he had been here before not too long ago!
They opened the window quietly as the mother ship awaited.
People had seen these lights before; they said it was Aurora Borealis.
But people were wrong; yes oh so wrong, they were from a distant planet called Metro-polis.
They awaited the prophet.
"He could be the one; we must take him back to our planet! Be careful not to disturb the boy and don't knock over the bat!"
Then soon a small breeze came and gently awoke the little boy.
He was a little startled at first, but liked the fluorescent little lights.
He but liked the fluorescent little lights.
He was taken to the distant planet and served the starving, depressed people well. He grew up to be very tall and his hair turned blonde.
"The time is coming," said the little voice, now old and his glow faltering, "We must return him to his planet to live his life."
He was taken back, back to his room where they placed him in his bed.

He woke up and not a day had passed since he had been taken in his sleep. Was it a dream? Archie thinks not, as sometimes when he looks at the midnight sky, he sees little fluorescent lights.

By Joshua Livingstone
Room 12

Nations Church Youth Group

This Friday 24th March 6.30 – 9.30 pm the Youth Group is running a Ten Pin Bowling event for all ages 11yrs +. You are invited to meet at the church [334 King Edward St, opp Melbourne Dairy]
The cost is \$8 which includes transport to and from Bowl Line. Reservations will be taken in the TNIS Hall at 3.10 Thursday.
Enquires to Camille on 455 1888 or 0273062890.

Holiday Riding School

Dunedin Riding Centre
The Easter 2006 programme runs during the days
18 – 21st April
24 – 25th April
Lesson times : 9 am to 12 noon.
Price \$175 whole week, or \$45 per day.
Call to book now: 489 8600
Instructor: Victoria Watt

Diary Dates

Monday 27th March- Rm 11 off to camp and back on Wednesday 29th March.

Tuesday 27th March – Australasian Science Examination entries to be sent to Sydney.

Wednesday 29th March – Rm 5 off to camp and back Saturday 1st April.

Monday 3rd April, 9.30 – 12.00 – 1st Massed Choir Practice at Balmacewen Int

Tuesday 4th April –9.00am Australasian Computer Examination.

Thursday 6th April – Massed Orchestra Practice in TNIS Hall 9.30 – 12.30

Friday 7th April – 9.00 – 12.00 School Swimming Sports at Moana Pool.

Thursday 13th April – Australasian Science Examination entries to be sent to Sydney.

Thursday 13th April – Last day of Term 1

Wednesday 26th April – Term 2 commences.

Wednesday 3rd May – 9.00am Australasian Science Examination.